

THE BRITISH COLONIST.

Wednesday Morning, December 5, 1866

TO ADVERTISERS.

Transients advertisements must be paid for in advance to insure insertion.

TO AGENTS.

Settlements of accounts will be required monthly, or the supply of papers will be discontinued. The daily and weekly issues will be furnished at the lowest cash rates and no exception will be made to this rule.

THE BRITISH COLONIST IS THE ONLY PAPER PUBLISHED IN THE COLONY THAT RECEIVES TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCHES.

The Governor's Reply to the Municipal Address.

The very cordial manner in which the Mayor and City Council were received by His Excellency yesterday, and the assurance given of his good feeling towards our people, will, we are sure, be appreciated by the respectable portion of the population. His Excellency promises a speedy repeal of the Real Estate Tax, but says nothing of the Trades License and Salary Taxes—an oversight, probably, for with a departure from our former policy of Free Trade, it must be designed to sweep away every direct tax. The introduction of a liberal system for bonding goods will meet with general approval. Perhaps the Chilean system, which we understand, is the most liberal in the world, would be more acceptable than any other. But whatever may be the system proposed, we trust that it will not be promulgated until a conference has been had with the Chamber of Commerce, appointed to address His Excellency on the subject of the Tariff. We are glad to number Governor Seymour among the supporters of Municipal Institutions, and to perceive that he pledges himself to do all in his power to advance the interests of the city, and to reduce the expenses of the public establishments, for until a general system of retrenchment has been perfected and combined with wise and wholesome legislation, we can hope for no improvement in our affairs. Experience has proved that the prosperity and happiness of a country depends as much upon the energy, capacity and liberality of the rulers as upon the intelligence, freedom and patriotism of the ruled. In other words, that no people who are cursed with dishonest or incapable lawgivers, can ever become great or command the respect and esteem of their fellow men. Bad legislation is a curse; let the people be ever so energetic or industrious, it will prevent improvement and progress. Perhaps no better illustration of this can be found than in this Colony, from which thousands of settlers have been driven by oppressive taxation and burdensome imposts to seek homes in other lands. The remark of His Excellency, that much more depends upon the success of the prospector than the skill of the Administrator or the wisdom of the law-maker, is a mistake. Had he reversed the sentence to read that more depended upon the skill of the lawmaker than upon the success of the prospector, he would have hit the mark. But to say that the prospector must find out new fields of wealth or we can look for an improvement, is, we conceive, a very grave error. The history of the Gold Export Tax and the Law of Imprisonment for Debt, proves that thousands of a ready-made population were driven by their enforcement from our shores to seek livelihoods in a land where more liberal laws are in force. The efforts of all the prospectors in British Columbia will not make the country contented or prosperous, if Mr Seymour and those under him fail in their duty. Success depends upon the "skill of the Administrator and the wisdom of the law-maker." Without the exercise of those qualities we shall fail miserably as a Colony. Prospectors will, of course, do their share towards the development of the resources of the Colony; but the weight of responsibility rests with the Government. Wise legislation is the main-spring of all that is great and good in a country, and the efforts of the Government must be directed towards rendering those now in the Colony happy and contented before others from abroad will be induced to take up their abode among us.

The Judicial Question.

In another column will be found the reply of His Excellency the Governor to the people's petition, praying for the appointment of Mr Needham as Chief Justice of the United Colonies. While we share in the universal regret that will be manifested at his Excellency's inability to satisfy the prayer of the petitioners, we confess that we cannot, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, see how the Governor could, with justice, act otherwise than he has done. The difficulty suggested itself to his mind in England, and His Excellency came to the conclusion that the best and fairest solution of the question would be that both gentlemen should temporarily be judges of the Supreme Court of British

Columbia, each retaining his precedence in his own Court, the respective salaries remaining intact. This proposition appears to have met with the sanction of the Colonial Office, but the refusal of one of the parties concerned to accede to it places His Excellency in rather an awkward position. With an old public servant, whose claims he could not ignore on the one side, and on the other, a monster petition in favor of another officer, whose claims for pre-eminence are based on his ability, integrity and popularity, he must needs give offence whichever way he decides, and His Excellency, unwilling to interfere with the judiciary of either colony, is anxious that his suggestion should be carried into effect, failing this, he finds himself unable to comply with the petition to appoint Mr Needham over the head of Mr Boggio, and there the matter rests for the present.

By Electric Telegraph

DELAYED DESPATCHES.

Mexican Affairs.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—About the middle of October the French Minister of State addressed His Excellency the Governor the programme agreed upon last June between Minister Bigelow and Drouin d'Hayes for the evacuation of Mexico, instead of removing the troops in detachment, beginning in two and ending in six months thereafter. It was proposed to embark all in one body about the 1st of January. Our Government replied, through Bigelow, that it adhered to the original programme and hoped there would be no delay in the sailing of the first detachment.

Last Monday, Marquis D'Montholon communicated to Seward that Napoleon desired more time for the general evacuation, and proposed to defer it four months. The President and Cabinet, after due consideration, directed Seward to reply that this Government sees no good reason for any departure from the programme of June last, which was proposed wholly by the French Minister at that time and accepted by the United States, which now insists on being fully complied with. This decision was communicated to Montholon to-day, and also proposed to Gen. Dix before his departure.

The Times Washington correspondent says since the special cabinet meeting on Thursday there has been great interest to know its purpose. We are enabled to state positively that the cabinet was called together to consider the declaration of France—that she cannot withdraw from Mexico before next spring, when it is promised to withdraw entirely. This is in violation of the agreement by Seward and Drouin d'Hayes; and as the notification of its comes at this late day, our Government is disposed to put the defence in any further promise of Napoleon. This subject was further considered in cabinet meetings.

On Friday, General Grant being present by special invitation of the President, it is believed Minister Dix was instructed to demand the immediate withdrawal of the French troops. A steamer has sailed from New Orleans with Government despatches to Campbell and Sherman, at Tampico or Vera Cruz.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 26.—The Italian Moleri, who was arrested for murder in setting fire to a building in Margaret Alley, by which a child was burned to death and a whole block of buildings destroyed, has confessed the crime.

A fire broke out in a large frame building on the Potrero occupied by Fishback, Tallow Chandler and Soap Maker, and Scoville & Co., Candle Makers. The entire building was burned, it was owned by S. P. Whipple, value \$20,000. Fishback estimates his loss at \$100,000; \$25,000 insurance. Scoville & Co. estimate their loss at \$20,000 and no insurance.

The steamer which sails for New York on Saturday takes 500 barrels of flour for that city.

Eastern States.

Leading Republican Congressmen are maturing a plan for the government of the Southern States, in view of their probable refusal to accept the constitutional amendment. It is proposed to reduce these States to a sort of territorial condition, to meet their peculiar circumstances.

Professor Loomis, of Yale College, says that the Herald's dispatch, purporting to come from Greenvile, England, about the meteoric display, is spurious, and unless the display was witnessed in Asia or the Pacific Ocean, it did not come off this year. Only about 800 meteors were counted at New Haven and 400 at Chicago, entirely inadequate to meet expectations.

A Good Opportunity for Victoria.

EDITORS DAILY COLONIST:—It is impossible that the brief hurried statement which has reached us concerning the sudden and appalling calamity which has fallen upon the fine old city of Quebec can be regarded by our people with indifference. However absorbed in their own troubles the rest may be, the sad spectacle of twenty thousand of their fellow countrymen robbed of everything, and in one short hour driven from their firesides into the rude blast of a Canadian October to keep body and soul together as best they might, must have made one of the most poignant of the community pause and reflect. Who that for a moment has thought of a population four times as numerous as all Victoria, lying to the neighboring hills from before the flames, while their dwellings were swiftly swept from the earth, and the aged and infirm crushed on their own hearthstones—who, I ask, but has felt a shudder at their horror and a throb of pity for the unhappy victims. But the terror and excitement of such a conflagration are easily endured compared with the misery and wretchedness which follow. What sight can be more pitiable than that of a poor hardworking man—his affectionate and happy family torn from the home that he has reared for them, his strong arms paralyzed by the loss of his shop, his tools, and his occupation, the food and clothing of his little ones snatched from before his eyes; all that made his home homelike or enabled him to provide for it, gone in a moment; his tender wife dying on the cold earth from fatigue and exposure amid the cries of his shivering children—what more heartrending than to see this frenzied impersonation of despair gazing around for that sympathy and succor which, among such a vast aggregation of misery, he must look in vain. And yet how many just such cases are standing to-day in the face of the hard advancing winter in the old city of Quebec!

Those of your readers who have read the bare published facts know well that I am not "piling on the agony," nor exaggerating one jot or tittle. They know that among 20,000 homeless fugitives there have been hundreds of such cases, and the Canadian portion of them must know that a Canadian winter means for a poor beggar and his family, What must it be for two thousand families!

Now I wish to enquire what is to hinder us making the case of these people our own? There is great moral effect in help sent from afar. Quebec may be very far away, but is a principal city in a young and rising nation—our sister city, full of suffering, the hearts of her people softened by sore affliction and keenly sensitive to acts of kindness, her public charity strained to its utmost in grappling with a terrible foe. Why cannot we send her a word of cheer, and something to show that when one British American citizen staggers under a blow the rest feel it and come to the rescue? Is not Quebec in ruins as dear to the heart of British America as Portland in ruins was to the United States? Unless gold hunting has absorbed every generous emotion, or an annexationist "jack of the lantern" dazed our wits and choked our patriotic impulses, we ought to answer this question by sharing even our last crust with the poor children and women of the brave old city. Why can we not, for even a couple of days, cease blubbering at an ignorant Colonial office and a couple of awkward Governors, and surprise ourselves and warm the hearts of others by a noble, generous deed? Perhaps our almost neglected firemen may not always snatch our wooden towns out of the flames, and we may one of these drizzly mornings have something worse than Governor Seymour to howl over. What I propose is that the Canadians organize and lead off in opening a channel through which public sympathy and aid can flow. Let them call out the girls to give a concert, the boys to give a "benefit," the clergyman to preach, and the citizens to subscribe to a "Quebec Relief Fund," and it, after they have got His Excellency to telegraph their distressed countrymen a Christmas cheer, "if the blessing of him that was ready to perish should come upon us because we delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless and him that had none to help him," at least one of your readers will feel it no dishonor to be called A NORTH AMERICAN CHINAMAN.

"Unbecoming and Degrading."

EDITORS BRITISH COLONIST:—Such was the expression of the celebrated Louis Spohr in reference to the treatment of musicians. Now, if music, the most heaven-born, soul-inspiring science of all the fine arts, is worthy of any consideration at all, then I claim a word or two on behalf of the musician, for an artist is a nonentity without an art.

This is unbecoming and degrading, said Louis Spohr, as he was conducted from the orchestra to the ladder, or to the servant's hall, or pushed into the kitchen amongst the cooks, pots and kettles, there to refresh himself upon the fragments and flat wine from the banquet table. Now an artist is supposed to be a being of superior mind and finer feelings than the pursuers of the more common vocations of life, and therefore would feel the degradation of such treatment more than another man. I am sorry to be obliged to say that I have not found my profession so treated only in England and where English masters prevail. Music is the life and soul of all our gatherings. You must have music on the battle field, and music over the tomb; music in your ball room, and music in your churches. Aye! and you dream of ethereal music in the realms of bliss where dwells the "Great I Am." I wonder if the musician will remain in the back kitchen (as I call it) of thought of treatment extended beyond this sphere. I would quit my profession and seek a livelihood by a more respectable calling, for it is better to be a brainless respected listener than an intelligent degraded artist. However, the treatment of musicians is of no consideration in the eyes of our countrymen. If our Navy continue to furnish bands for balls, &c., we shall all have to migrate shortly.

I cannot close without a word of comment on the letter written by the correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial, referring to the souls lost on the Evening Star, he says: "But how sad the thought that a single burial case should have taken down into the cold earth nothing disengaged, so much of sin and wickedness as the Evening Star contained. Few single internments ever have included a hundred barlots, an operative troupe and a circus company." So he classifies the opera house with the brothel, the barlot with the prima donna. The fool!

The opera house and the theatre are institutions authorized by the Government, and patronized by the learned and best people of the nation, even up to our Lady Sovereign the Queen. Is virtue in an opera house impossible? Sin in heaven is not. I am sorry I am an artist, but as God has made me so I must remain, and as regards degrading treatment, engagements, and degrading classifications by newspapers, correspondents, why we must philosophize as the man whom the jockeys kicked: "Put it down from whence it came."

C. S., For the profession.

The Post Office.

MESSRS EDITORS:—The question is often asked, why don't we have the Post-office as near the centre of the city as possible? When we have to go to the Post-office for letters, the location should be as near the centre of the town as possible, so that all parties could have easy access to it. The Government owns a splendid site, admirably adapted for the purpose, situated on Government street, where Messrs Franklin and others are located, which, with a very slight alteration, would make a fine office, centrally located, and easily accessible to all. The Government are paying a considerable rent for the present building, and it would be a great saving in money and time to the public if the Post-office was on Government street. L.

The Suttie Monument.

MESSRS EDITORS:—In your issue of yesterday, you stated that the monument about to be erected by the officers and men of H. M. S. Suttie, had been contracted for by Messrs. Swigert & Teague. This is not so, as I have the contract for the work.

European Mail Items.

Three or four hundred English volunteers left London on the 19th Oct. to attend the Tir National in Belgium.

The new west pier at Brighton was opened on the 6th, with great ceremony. The entire length of the pier is 1151 feet.

The Brothers Davenport are in Holland, and they appear to meet with very little success. A street juggler has come forward as a rival, and threatens to reveal their secret.

The health of Count de Bismark continues in the same state, the disease not either getting worse or presenting any signs of amelioration.

King William has directed the celebration of a solemn fete in his capital on the 11th of November, for the restoration of peace.

The *Caranore Herald* states that Sir Watkin W. Wynne steadily declines a peerage.

The excessive rains in the south of England have caused the production and growth of fungi to an enormous extent.

£54,000 have been subscribed as a guarantee fund for an exhibition, which it is proposed to be held at Leeds, in 1868.

The *Gleaner* says the vacant seat at the Indian Council Board has been accepted by Sir Bartle Frere, the Governor of Bombay, and that Sir Seymour Fitzgerald will be the new Governor of Bombay.

Count Eulenburg, the Prussian officer who killed Herr Ott at Bonn, has been pardoned, after having been confined for several months in a fortress.

The glass required for the Paris Exhibition next year would cover an extent of 20 acres.

New Advertisements.

WANTED

A COUPLE OF MEN TO OPEN OYSTERS, Apply to Thomas E. Barrett, at the Adelphi Oyster Saloon, do 34

LECTURE.

THE FIRST CLASS LECTURE OF THE SERIES "TO BE DELIVERED DURING THE WINTER SEASON," under the auspices of the Mechanics' Literary Institute, will take place on

THURSDAY EVENING next, at 7.30, AT THE SPACIOUS ROOMS OF THE INSTITUTE

SUBJECT: "SOME TALK ON TALK AND TALKERS" BY REV. T. SOMERVILLE, M. A.

TERMS OF ADMISSION—All Members, accompanied by their Lady Friends, admitted Free. Non-Members—Twenty-five cents. do 34

GOLDSTONE BROS.

IMPORTERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS WHARF STREET VICTORIA V. I.

Victoria Hotel.

GOVERNMENT ST.

THE PROPRIETOR IN THANKING the public for former favors, begs to announce that he will re-open, SATURDAY, November 24, when by keeping the best of Wines, Liquors, Beer and Cigars, he hopes to receive his former friends and patronage. do 21m

MR E. MALLANDAINE,

ARCHITECT, late Member of the Architectural Association, 1 on OFFICE—Government street. do 3

A. F. MAIN,

Real Estate Agent AND CUSTOM-HOUSEBROKER Government st., between Bastion & Fort sts. do 3m

WILL IN FUTURE, IN ADDITION

to the public for former favors, begs to announce that he will re-open, SATURDAY, November 24, when by keeping the best of Wines, Liquors, Beer and Cigars, he hopes to receive his former friends and patronage. do 21m

NEW DRUG STORE.

In Re William Henry Houskinson, a Bankrupt. do 21m

THE BANKRUPT HAVING THIS

day passed his last Examination, His Honor the Chief Justice Joseph Neenan has appointed Wednesday, the 12th day of December next, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, at the Court House, James Bay, Victoria, for granting of his certificate of discharge. do 21m

FRED. BEAL,

FOR SEVERAL YEARS SO WELL known at the Corner of Curtis & Moore, solicitor, on one of the best, a continuation of the liberal patronage bestowed during the past. do 1m

SHEET COPPER

FOR SALE —AT— CHAS. KENTS' Fort Street, V. I. do 21m

NAVY LAUNDRY,

ESQUIMAULT. WHITE SHIRTS, TROUSERS OR Vests, 25c per dozen. do 21m

TO BE LET,

FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED THE HOUSE ON JAMES BAY at present occupied by Captain Maitland, containing nine rooms, bath, kitchen, two large stores and detached kitchen; together with the large well stocked and productive garden, outhouses, etc. There is a well of good water, and tank and cisterns for rain water on the premises. Apply to T. ALLOP, Land Agent, Government street, near Broughton, Victoria, V. I. do 21m

For Sale.

ONE OF THE BEST FAMILIES in the Colony, on the Island, also, HUGO and ALANES, etc. He is young and gentle, and has been driven by a lady for the last three years. Enquire at DUNLOP & LESTER'S, do 21m

BRITISH COLONIST

NOW READY! AND FOR SALE AT THE BOOK STORES.

VICTORIA THEATRE.

Kindly lent for the occasion by His Honor Judge Baggio. Under the Patronage of His Excellency the Governor and Mrs. Seymour.

A BENEFIT

IN AID OF THE FUNDS OF THE ROYAL HOSPITAL. AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB. do 21m

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5th, 1866.

The Performance will commence with a New Farce, entitled

A TICKET OF LEAVE.

After which the TRIAL SCENE from the 4th Act of the MERCHANT OF VENICE. To conclude with

A TURKISH BATH.

ADMISSION—Boxes and Parquet 5s; Reserved Seats, 3s 6d; Pit, 2s 6d. For further particulars see Small Bills. Evening Telegraph Copy. do 21m

New Advertisements.

WANTED

A COUPLE OF MEN TO OPEN OYSTERS, Apply to Thomas E. Barrett, at the Adelphi Oyster Saloon, do 34

LECTURE.

THE FIRST CLASS LECTURE OF THE SERIES "TO BE DELIVERED DURING THE WINTER SEASON," under the auspices of the Mechanics' Literary Institute, will take place on

THURSDAY EVENING next, at 7.30, AT THE SPACIOUS ROOMS OF THE INSTITUTE

SUBJECT: "SOME TALK ON TALK AND TALKERS" BY REV. T. SOMERVILLE, M. A.

TERMS OF ADMISSION—All Members, accompanied by their Lady Friends, admitted Free. Non-Members—Twenty-five cents. do 34

GOLDSTONE BROS.

IMPORTERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS WHARF STREET VICTORIA V. I.

Victoria Hotel.

GOVERNMENT ST.

THE PROPRIETOR IN THANKING the public for former favors, begs to announce that he will re-open, SATURDAY, November 24, when by keeping the best of Wines, Liquors, Beer and Cigars, he hopes to receive his former friends and patronage. do 21m

MR E. MALLANDAINE,

ARCHITECT, late Member of the Architectural Association, 1 on OFFICE—Government street. do 3

A. F. MAIN,

Real Estate Agent AND CUSTOM-HOUSEBROKER Government st., between Bastion & Fort sts. do 3m

WILL IN FUTURE, IN ADDITION

to the public for former favors, begs to announce that he will re-open, SATURDAY, November 24, when by keeping the best of Wines, Liquors, Beer and Cigars, he hopes to receive his former friends and patronage. do 21m

NEW DRUG STORE.

In Re William Henry Houskinson, a Bankrupt. do 21m

THE BANKRUPT HAVING THIS

day passed his last Examination, His Honor the Chief Justice Joseph Neenan has appointed Wednesday, the 12th day of December next, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, at the Court House, James Bay, Victoria, for granting of his certificate of discharge. do 21m

FRED. BEAL,

FOR SEVERAL YEARS SO WELL known at the Corner of Curtis & Moore, solicitor, on one of the best, a continuation of the liberal patronage bestowed during the past. do 1m

SHEET COPPER

FOR SALE —AT— CHAS. KENTS' Fort Street, V. I. do 21m

NAVY LAUNDRY,

ESQUIMAULT. WHITE SHIRTS, TROUSERS OR Vests, 25c per dozen. do 21m

TO BE LET,

FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED THE HOUSE ON JAMES BAY at present occupied by Captain Maitland, containing nine rooms, bath, kitchen, two large stores and detached kitchen; together with the large well stocked and productive garden, outhouses, etc. There is a well of good water, and tank and cisterns for rain water on the premises. Apply to T. ALLOP, Land Agent, Government street, near Broughton, Victoria, V. I. do 21m

For Sale.

ONE OF THE BEST FAMILIES in the Colony, on the Island, also, HUGO and ALANES, etc. He is young and gentle, and has been driven by a lady for the last three years. Enquire at DUNLOP & LESTER'S, do 21m

BRITISH COLONIST

NOW READY! AND FOR SALE AT THE BOOK STORES.

VICTORIA THEATRE.

Kindly lent for the occasion by His Honor Judge Baggio. Under the Patronage of His Excellency the Governor and Mrs. Seymour.

A BENEFIT

IN AID OF THE FUNDS OF THE ROYAL HOSPITAL. AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB. do 21m

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5th, 1866.

The Performance will commence with a New Farce, entitled

A TICKET OF LEAVE.

After which the TRIAL SCENE from the 4th Act of the MERCHANT OF VENICE. To conclude with

A TURKISH BATH.

ADMISSION—Boxes and Parquet 5s; Reserved Seats, 3s 6d; Pit, 2s 6d. For further particulars see Small Bills. Evening Telegraph Copy. do 21m

Shipping Notices.

Steamer Constantine.

NEITHER THE CAPTAIN NOR THE UNDERMANNED will be responsible for any debts contracted by the crew of his vessel. JANION, GREEN & RHODES, Agents. do 21m

ROYAL MAIL.

Under Contract with Her Majesty's Government for the conveyance of the Mails from England for the West Indies, Mexico, Central America, Panama and the Pacific.

SPROUT & CO.,

NEWTON & TRIPP, SHIPPING AGENTS PORT TOWNSEND, W. T.

CREWS SUPPLIED

AT THE SHORTEST NOTICE. do 3m

Re Estate of L. A. BENDIXEN.

IN BANKRUPTCY. do 21m

ALL PARTIES HAVING CLAIMS ON

the above Estate, and who have not already proved their claims, must do so on or before Thursday, the 6th December proximo, otherwise they will not participate in the dividend due to be declared. do 21m

Re Estate of MANN & MUNRO.

IN BANKRUPTCY. do 21m

ALL PARTIES HAVING CLAIMS ON THE

above Estate, and who have not already proved their claims, must do so on or before Thursday, the 6th December proximo, otherwise they will not participate in the dividend due to be declared. do 21m

In the Supreme Court of Civil Justice of

Vancouver Island, B. C. IN BANKRUPTCY. do 21m

THE ABOVE BANKRUPT HAVING THIS

day passed his last Examination, His Honor the Chief Justice Joseph Neenan has appointed Wednesday, the 12th day of December next, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, at the Court House, James Bay, Victoria,

